

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 SAM-01 SAB-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OMB-01 SCCT-01 ACDA-10 DHA-02 SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 OC-05

CCO-00 SCA-01 /110 W

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O R 031209Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7091

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK 292

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 2021

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: APRIL 3 MEDIA REPORTING ON LEBANON

1. SYRIAN MEDIA HIGHLIGHTED IMPLEMENTATION OF CEASEFIRE YESTERDAY. RADIO, TELEVISION AND PRESS NOTED WIDESPREAD APPRECIATION FOR SYRIAN EFFORTS. AL-THAWRAH BANNERED, "CEASEFIRE IN LEBANON," AND REPORTED THAT LEBANESE PARLIAMENT WOULD MEET MONDAY TO AMEND CONSTITUTION AND THURSDAY TO ELECT NEW PRESIDENT. AL-THAWRAH CITED SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN INITIATIVE FROM LEBANESE BAATHISTS AND NASSERITES, SAEB SALAM, MAJID ARSLAN, DEPS. NAZIM ALQADRI AND MICHEL DAHER, AND PHALANGE LEADER GEMAYEL.

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2. AL-THAWRAH REPORTED KARAME'S DISCUSSION WITH ARAB AMBASSADORS IN WHICH PRIMIN AFFIRMED THAT ONLY SYRIAN INITIATIVE COULD SETTLE CRISIS. PLO STATEMENT APPEALING TO ALL PARTIES TO OBSERVE CEASEFIRE AND PERMIT MOVEMENT ON POLITICAL TRACK NOTED, INCLUDING ARAFAT COMMENT THAT SYRIA WOULD CONTINUE ITS MEDIATION EFFORTS.

3. PRESS REPORTED JUMBLATT MEETING WITH AMB. BROWN YESTERDAY, IN WHICH JUMBLATT REVIEWED LEBANESE SITUATION WITH AMBASSADOR, RAISED ISSUE OF PLETHORA OF SEX-VIOLENCE FILMS THAT HAD DOMINATED LEBANESE CINEMA IN PAST, AND INDICATED HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET AGAIN WITH AMBASSADOR. LOCAL MEDIA HAVE NOT MENTIONED REPORT BROADCAST BY RADIO ISRAEL THAT JUMBLATT WILL VISIT SYRIA TODAY. (WE UNDERSTAND FORMER LEBANESE PRIMIN SAEB SALAM ARRIVED DAMASCUS FOR CONSULTATIONS NOON TODAY.

4. AL-THAWRAH COLUMNIST REVIEWED POINTS CONTAINED IN APRIL 1 SYRIAN STATEMENT ON LEBANON, ASSERTED THAT RELAXATION IN TENSION DUE TO

(A) COMPLIANCE BY CONERNED PARTIES WITH SYRIAN STATEMENT

(B) WIDESPREAD ARAB AND INTERNATION SUPPORT FOR STATEMENT:

5. COMMENT:

SYRIA TAKING FULL CREDIT FOR INSPIRING CEASEFIRE.
MURPHY

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